

**Remarks**

The above amendments were made to correct the cross-reference section of the present application. A Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Preliminary Amendment, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 2, 2000

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Russell C. Scott", is written over a horizontal line.

By: Russell C. Scott

Reg. No.: 43,103

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P.  
816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Tel: (512) 499-6200  
Fax: (512) 499-6290